Expedited Processing
Application No. 10/563,785
Amd. Dated: July 20, 2009
Reply to Final Office Action mailed May 20, 2009

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

comprising:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for treating a vascular condition,

a catheter; and

a coated stent operably coupled to the catheter, the coated stent including a plurality of therapeutic coatings disposed on a distal end and a proximal end of the stent and a plurality of timing coatings disposed on the distal and proximal ends of the stent, the timing coatings alternating with the therapeutic coatings, wherein each therapeutic coating comprises a bioerodable polymer and a therapeutic agent and wherein each timing coating comprises a bioerodable polymer, wherein [[a]] each of the plurality of therapeutic agents is released from the plurality of therapeutic coatings, the therapeutic agents being released sequentially upon the erosion of the overlying timing coating to inhibit restenosis adjacent to the ends of the stent.

Claim 2 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the therapeutic agents are selected from a group consisting of an antiproliferative agent, an antineoplastic agent, an antibiotic agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a free radical scavenger, a protein, and combinations thereof.

Claim 3 (original): The system of claim 1 wherein the therapeutic agents are selected from a group consisting of paclitaxel, dexamethasone, rapamycin, a rapamycin analog, a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, a steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, a superoxide dismutase mimic, apo A-1 Milano, and combinations thereof.

Claim 4 to Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (currently amended): The system of claim <u>L[[5]]</u> wherein each timing coating prevents release of the therapeutic agent from the therapeutic coating positioned beneath the timing coating until a predetermined time.

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Claim 8 (previously presented): The system of claim 1 further comprising:

the coated stent including at least one therapeutic coating disposed on a

longitudinal mid-portion of the stent.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The system of claim 8 further comprising:

at least one timing coating disposed on the longitudinal mid-portion of the stent.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The system of claim 8 wherein the therapeutic

coating disposed on the longitudinal mid-portion of the stent releases a therapeutic agent that is different from the therapeutic agents released from the therapeutic coatings disposed on the distal

and proximal ends of the stent.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The system of claim 8 wherein the therapeutic

coating disposed on the longitudinal mid-portion of the stent displays diffusion characteristics

that are different from those of the therapeutic coatings disposed on the distal and proximal ends

of the stent.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A coated stent, comprising:

a stent framework; [[and]]

a plurality of therapeutic coatings disposed on a distal end and a proximal end of

the stent framework, each therapeutic coating comprising a bioerodable polymer and a

therapeutic agent; and

a plurality of timing coatings disposed on the distal and proximal ends of the stent

framework, the timing coatings alternating with the therapeutic coatings, each timing coating

comprising a bioerodable polymer.

wherein a plurality of therapeutic agents is released from the plurality of

therapeutic coatings, the therapeutic agents being released sequentially to inhibit restenosis

adjacent to the ends of the stent.

Claim 13 (cancelled)

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Claim 14 (original): The coated stent of claim 12 wherein the therapeutic agents are selected from a group consisting of an antiproliferative agent, an antineoplastic agent, an

antibiotic agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a free radical scavenger, a protein, and

combinations thereof

Claim 15 (original): The coated stent of claim 12 wherein the therapeutic agents are selected from a group consisting of paclitaxel, dexamethasone, rapamycin, a rapamycin

analog, a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, a steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, a superoxide

dismutase mimic, apo A-1 Milano, and combinations thereof.

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): The coated stent of claim [[16]] 12 wherein each

timing coating prevents release of the therapeutic agent from the therapeutic coating positioned

beneath the timing coating until a predetermined time.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The coated stent of claim 12 further

comprising:

at least one therapeutic coating disposed on a longitudinal mid-portion of the stent

framework

Claim 20 (previously presented): The coated stent of claim 19 further

comprising:

at least one timing coating disposed on the longitudinal mid-portion of the stent

framework.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The coated stent of claim 19 wherein the

therapeutic coating disposed on the longitudinal mid-portion of the stent releases a therapeutic

agent that is different from the therapeutic agents released from the therapeutic coatings disposed

on the distal and proximal ends of the stent.

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Claim 22 (previously presented): The coated stent of claim 19 wherein the therapeutic coating disposed on the longitudinal mid-portion of the stent displays diffusion characteristics that are different from those of the therapeutic coatings disposed on the distal and proximal ends of the stent framework.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method of inhibiting restenosis adjacent to the ends of a stent used to treat a vascular condition, comprising:

providing a coated stent, the coated stent including a first and a second therapeutic coating disposed on a distal and a proximal end of the stent, the first therapeutic coating including a bioerodable polymer and a first therapeutic agent, the second therapeutic coating including a second therapeutic agent, the coated stent further including a first timing coating positioned between the first and second therapeutic coatings, the timing coating comprising a bioerodable polymer;

deploying the coated stent in a vessel; releasing the first therapeutic agent from the first therapeutic coating; eroding the bioerodable polymer of the first therapeutic coating;

actuating the first timing coating based on the eroding of the bioerodable polymer;

and

releasing the second therapeutic agent from the second therapeutic coating at a time controlled by the first timing coating.

Claim 24 (original): The method of claim 23 wherein the therapeutic agents are selected from a group consisting of an antiproliferative agent, an antineoplastic agent, an antibiotic agent, an anti-inflammatory agent, a free radical seavenger, a protein, and combinations thereof.

Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 23 wherein the therapeutic agents are selected from a group consisting of paclitaxel, dexamethasone, rapamycin, a rapamycin analog, a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug, a steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, a superoxide dismutase mimic, apo A-1 Milano, and combinations thereof.

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Claim 26 (previously presented): The method of claim 23 further comprising: releasing a third therapeutic agent from a third therapeutic coating, the third therapeutic agent disposed on a longitudinal mid-portion of the stent framework.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method of claim 26 further comprising: first actuating a second timing coating, the second timing coating disposed over the third therapeutic agent on the longitudinal mid-portion of the stent framework.

Claim 28 (original): The method of claim 23 wherein the second therapeutic agent is different from the first therapeutic agent.

Claim 29 (original): The method of claim 26 wherein the third therapeutic agent is different from the first and second therapeutic agents.